



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

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TTY Relay 711

Veteran Citizens Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB) Meeting Summary May 19, 2011 2-4 p.m. Douglass Truth Library 2300 E. Yesler - Seattle

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Doug Hoople at 2:05 p.m. A quorum was declared.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Doug Hoople - Chair, Gary Kingsbury – Vice-chair, Kathy Lewis, Robert Stephens, Jr., Bill Wood

Board Members Excused/Absent: Stan Gunno, Oren Hadaller, Cynthia Lefever, Roger Welles

King County Staff Present: Debora Gay, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Laird Heia, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS

Guests: None.

Review of Meeting Summary

The March 17, 2011 VCLOB meeting summary was approved with changes.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions

Doug welcomed everyone to the meeting and those present introduced themselves.

Levy Renewal

Renewal Ordinance

Doug reported on recent levy renewal activity including the passage of an ordinance by the King County Regional Policy Committee and the King County Budget and Fiscal Management Committee to place the levy renewal question on the August 16, 2011 ballot. From there the ordinance went to the full Council where it passed unanimously.

Educational Survey

Debora Gay shared that in February 2011 a public survey was conducted to assess support for the VHS levy. A total of 450 people were interviewed and the results were shared with the County Executive to assist him in selecting options for the next Levy proposal. The data indicated there is strong support for continuing the Veterans and Human Services Levy.

Board of Ethics/Board member role

Debora reminded the board members that when they are representing themselves as board members they are considered King County employees and are governed by the same guidelines as staff. As an employee, board members may educate citizens about the Levy but not state a position on the renewal measure or advocate its passage. If acting as a private citizen, they can take part in the political process. To assist in the clarification of roles, Debora reviewed Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion 98-06-1158, Health and Human Services/Campaign Activities with board members. Board members reviewed a list of Levy successes they may want to share with the public when educating them about the Levy. The Levy website also has updated information on the Levy.

SIP Planning Committee

A committee has been convened to begin developing the framework for the next Service Improvement Plan (SIP). The committee includes representatives of the Council, the Executive, DCHS staff and the chairs of the RHSLOB and VCLOB. Gary and Doug attended the first meeting and will serve as the Vet's Levy board's representatives on the committee. Board members can provide their input to Doug and Gary for them to take to the committee. Debora reminded board members there will be few if any funds available to invest in new programming if the levy is renewed, but due to board interest, they are exploring way to improve support of military families.

The committee has meetings scheduled through July. Information on the Equity and Social Justice Initiative and the Countywide Strategic Plan that will help guide the SIP's development was shared with the board.

Public Records Training

In December 2010, King County Council passed Ordinance 16997 which requires that all of King County's boards and commission members be trained in records retention and the Washington State Public Records Act. To comply with the ordinance Levy staff reviewed with VCLOB members the Public Records Act RCW42.56 provided by the King County Public Records Office. A discussion and Q&A session followed.

Chair's Report

None to report.

Staff Report

- Marcy reminded board members of their prior policy agreement to transfer any remaining one-time Levy funds to housing capital. The board reaffirmed their commitment to this policy.

- The first bi-annual report has been submitted to Council. Copies of the report were distributed to board members.
- The 2010 Annual Report has been submitted to the Executive's office for review. Levy staff will post the report on the Levy website once it is submitted to Council on June 1. Hard copies of the report are expected to be available by the end of June.
- Debora Gay reported that King County Council had requested through a budget ordinance proviso that the office of Budget and Strategic Planning work with other departments to create a working committee to review the need for a Veteran's Court in King County. Debora was CSD's representative on the team. The final recommendation of the team was to pilot a veteran's calendar in Mental Health Treatment Court for one year. While the diagnosis of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) had not been previously included in the regular Mental Health Treatment Court, under this pilot project veterans with PTSD will be eligible to participate. This recommendation will be reviewed by the County Council and if approved will be implemented most likely in 2012.
- Seattle University has arranged to bring ABC correspondent Bob Woodruff to Seattle University during the week of July 15 to participate in a series of events to raise awareness about homeless veterans. Woodruff is the ABC journalist who was severely wounded (TBI) in Iraq in 2006 shortly after being named Peter Jennings' replacement as anchor of ABC News. He has since created a national foundation to assist veterans' reintegration into their communities. More information will be provided as it becomes available.
- It was noted that Robert Stephens, Jr., Bill Wood, Kathy Lewis and Cynthia Lefever will be up for board re-appointment the end of 2011.

Old Business

None to report.

New Business

- A memorial service for Lee Jones will be held on May 28. Robert will send details out to the board.
- Laird shared that Cynthia was recently honored at Renton High School's Centennial for her service and support for veterans. Cynthia used the time for her acceptance speech to educate the attendees on the successes of the levy. She was grateful for the informational materials the levy staff recently provided.

Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)

None to report.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.